



March 24th, 2026

Mayor Olivia Chow and Members of City Council
c/o City Clerk
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Re: EX29.3 - Update on Weston Foundation Donation for Queen's Park North Revitalization

Dear Mayor Chow and Members of Council,

ABCRA represents residents across the Bloor-Yorkville area, Midtown, and the neighbourhood immediately north of Queen's Park. For many residents in our area, Queen's Park North is only a few minutes' walk from home and is a regularly used and valued green space.

While modest in size, its proximity to the University campus, the Royal Ontario Museum, and other civic institutions gives it an outsized symbolic importance within the city. The park is defined by its mature tree canopy, which is central to its character and how the space is experienced.

We want to acknowledge the Weston Foundation's contribution, which presents a meaningful opportunity to invest in the long-term care and improvement of this important public space. Our concern is not with the intent to revitalize the park, but with the sequencing and scope of what is currently being advanced.

Sequencing and Community Input

Significant program elements - including built structures and elevated features - are being considered without a completed Urban Forest Management Plan. Without this, there is no clear understanding of how the proposed changes will impact the health and stability of the existing trees. This analysis must come first.

Community feedback has consistently raised concerns about the scale and intensity of the proposal. The design seems to be moving forward with limited adjustment and this is severely undermining confidence in the consultation process.

Requested Direction

We respectfully request that Council:

- Direct staff to complete a comprehensive Urban Forest Management Plan prior to advancing or evaluating the proposed design elements.
- Bring forward a revised design that reflects both ecological constraints and community input.
- Maintain Council oversight at key decision points before implementation proceeds.

This area of the city is facing significant intensification through forthcoming PMTSA policies, with a substantial increase in residents expected in the coming years. In that context, existing green spaces like Queen's Park North will become even more important. It is essential that they are thoughtfully designed, with their core natural features protected, to ensure they continue to serve both current and future residents.

Taking the time to properly assess and align the plan will lead to a stronger and more durable outcome.

Yours truly,

The ABC Residents Association,
Ian Carmichael and John Caliendo,
Co-Chairs
abcra@abc.ca

CC:

Councillor Dianne Saxe, Ward 11 University-Rosedale

Councillor_Saxe@toronto.ca

The ABC Residents Association is a volunteer organization committed to enhancing the quality of life in our neighbourhood through active participation in municipal issues. We serve the residents living in Toronto's Yorkville / North Midtown community between Yonge Street west to Avenue Road and Bloor Street north to the CPR tracks